

Message Text

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ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /035 W

-----047458 091021Z /12

P 090955Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7878

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

UNCLAS COLOMBO 2892

DEPT PASS USDA FOR RESPENCER, CEP/OGSM; SINGAPORE PASS

ALAN HUNT, WHEAT ASSOCIATES, USA; NEW DELHI FOR AGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, CE

SUBJ: WHEAT SALES TO SRI LANKA

1. EFFECTIVE AUGUST 6, 1977, CAPTAIN HEYWARD FERNANDO REPLACED V.P. SILVA AS CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE FLOUR MILLING CORPORATION. CAPTAIN FERNANDO ALSO SERVES IN THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE SRI LANKA ARMY. SILVA WILL REMAIN HEAD OF STATE CORPORATIONS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES BUT EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS FLOUR MILLING CORPORATION WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO FOOD MINISTRY.

2. EMBOFF MET WITH THE NEW CHAIRMAN ON AUGUST 9 TO DISCUSS THE PURCHASE OF AMERICAN WHEAT BOTH FOR MILLING BY THE FLOUR CORPORATION AND FOR MILLING IN TRANSIT TO SINGAPORE. CHIEF MILLER RAMANATHAN AND OTHER TECHNICAL PEOPLE ALSO ATTENDED THE MEETING.

3. EMBOFF REVIEWED THE HISTORY OF PAST DISCUSSIONS WITH SILVA, THE FOOD COMMISSIONER, AND THE EXTERNAL RESOURCES DIVISION, UNCLASSIFIED

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AND POINTED OUT THE ADVANTAGES OF AMERICAN WHEAT. RAMANATHAN CONFIRMED THAT LABORATORY TESTS OF THE SAMPLE OF HARD RED WINTER WHEAT HAD BEEN VERY SATISFACTORY. EMBOFF ALSO EXPLAINED BENEFITS OF CCC CREDIT AND ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE THROUGH WHEAT ASSOCIATES.

4. IT WAS CLEAR THAT ALL OF THE ABOVE WAS NEW TO FERNANDO

WHO DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE AN EXTENSIVE BACKGROUND IN MILLING. FERNANDO SAID THE PRESENT THINKING IS TO TENDER FOR ADDITIONAL GRAIN SUPPLIES IN MID-SEPTEMBER. HE STATED THAT "IN PRINCIPLE" HE FAVORED ORDERING AMERICAN WHEAT SO LONG AS PRICE AND QUALITY WRE COMPETITIVE WITH OTHER SUPPLIERS. EMBOFF SUGGEESTED THAT A VISIT BY WHEAT ASSOCIATES REGIONAL DIRECTOR ALAN HUNT MIGHT BE USEFUL IN HELPING TO ASSESS AMERICAN WHEAT AND FERNANDO AGREED.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT HUNT VISIT COLOMBO ASAP. PERKINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
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ISecure: 1
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Review Release Date: n/a
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TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, CE, STATE FLOUR MILLING CORPORATION, (FERNANDO, HEYWARD)
To: STATE SINGAPORE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2efedc5f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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